



STEVEN AVERY TRIAL TRANSCRIPTS AND DOCUMENTS

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About

This site was created in January 2016 by Skipp Topp and friends, and made possible thanks to our sponsors and many generous donors who were gracious enough to contribute money through a crowdfunding campaign to help us to obtain copies of the Steven Avery trial transcripts and case file documents from Manitowoc County, Wisconsin. Like many others, we became aware of and interested in the Steven Avery case after seeing the very popular Netflix series Making a Murderer, and we wanted to know more about what really happened in the trial.

All of the documents are from the following case:

State of Wisconsin v. Avery, Steven A.
Case Number 2005CF000381

All of these trial records were paid for through our crowdfunding campaign, with the exception of a handful of documents/photos that were either obtained and posted online by others or sent to us for publication on this site. As of May 2016 we have nearly 250 exhibit photos and 450 documents from the investigation and trial, totaling over 15,000 pages!





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Welcome to the Steven Avery case file library. All of the documents here from the 2007 murder trial State of Wisconsin v. Avery, Steven A.; case number 2005CF000381. These are public records obtained from Manitowoc County, Wisconsin, as described in the About page.

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This very helpful index was created by and made available thanks to redditor TC0072.

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Son of Barb Janda, brother of Blaine and Brendan

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Trooper Timothy Austin

Technical Reconstruction Unit of Wisconsin State Patrol Academy

Created the forensic mapping of Avery Yard

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Bobby Dassey

Nephew of SA, lived in trailer next door

Son of Barb Janda, brother of Blaine and Brendan

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Lieutenant Brett Bowe

Patrol Lieutenant, Calumet County Sheriff's Department

Involved in security and search of Avery Yard 5th-12th November

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Deputy Peter O'Connor

Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department, Patrol Division

First LE at Avery Yard after discovery of RAV4, Nov 5

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Sergeant Jason Orth

Patrol Sergeant, Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department

First LE to make contact with Pamela Sturm after discovery of RAV4, Nov 5

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Deputy Inspector Todd Hermann

Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department, Patrol Lieutenant November 2005

Involved in identification of RAV4, Nov 5

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Day 5 – 2007 Feb 16

Witnesses

Julie Cramer

Dog handler, Great Lakes Search and Rescue Canine

Part of search of Avery Yard, Nov 5

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Special Agent Thomas Fassbender

Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation

Co-Lead Investigator in the murder of Teresa Halbach

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William Brandes, Jr.

Volunteer Fireman, Brillion Fire Department

Found number plates of RAV4, Nov 8

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Trooper Cindy Paine

Wisconsin State Patrol

Part of search which found RAV4 licence plates, Nov 8

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Day 6 – 2007 Feb 19

Witnesses**John Ertl**

DNA Analysis Unit, Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory

Investigated RAV4 as part of Field Response Team, involved in removal Nov 5

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Deputy David Siders

Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department, Patrol Division

Discovered burn barrel containing mobile phone and camera, Nov 7

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Sergeant William Tyson

Calumet County Sheriff's Department

Responsible for security of RAV4, Nov 5

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Day 7 – 2007 Feb 20

Witnesses**Sergeant William Tyson**

Calumet County Sheriff's Department

Responsible for security of RAV4, Nov 5

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Sergeant Andrew L. Colborn

Patrol Sergeant, Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department

Customer of Avery Salvage Yard

Interviewed SA on Nov 3

Involved in several searches of Avery Yard including SA trailer, Nov 5-8

Present for discovery of RAV4 key, Nov 8

Direct Examination [KK] [[64](#)]

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Lieutenant James Lenk

Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department

Interviewed SA on Nov 4

Involved in several searches of Avery Yard including SA trailer, Nov 5-8

Found RAV4 key, Nov 8

Direct Examination [KK] [[216](#)]

Day 8 – 2007 Feb 21

Witnesses**Lieutenant James Lenk**

Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department

Interviewed SA on Nov 4

Involved in several searches of Avery Yard including SA trailer, Nov 5-8

Found RAV4 key, Nov 8

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Cross-Examination [DS] [[19](#)]

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Detective Dave Remiker

Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department

Interviewed Zipperer family Nov 3

Interviewed SA on Nov 4

Confirmed RAV4 was Teresa's, Nov 5

Involved in several searches of Avery Yard including SA trailer, Nov 5-6

Searched SA trailer and garage Mar 1-2

Present for discovery of bullet fragment in garage Mar 2

Direct Examination [KK] [[121](#)]

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Lieutenant Dan Kucharski

Patrol Division, Calumet County Sheriff's Department

Involved in several searches of Avery Yard including SA trailer, Nov 5-8

Present for discovery of RAV4 key, Nov 8

Direct Examination [KK] [[222](#)]

Day 9 – 2007 Feb 22

Witnesses

Deputy Daniel Kucharski

Patrol Division, Calumet County Sheriff's Department

Involved in several searches of Avery Yard including SA trailer, Nov 5-8

Present for discovery of RAV4 key, Nov 8

Cont'D Direct Examination [KK] [[4](#)]

Cross-Examination [JB] [[44](#)]

Investigator Gary Steier

Special Investigator with the Calumet County Sheriff's Department

Involved in several searches of Avery Yard including SA trailer, Nov 5-12 & Mar 1-2

Present for discovery of bullet fragments Mar 1&2

Direct Examination [KK] [[131](#)]

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Special Agent Kevin Heimerl

Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation

Involved in several searches of Avery Yard including SA trailer, Nov 5-12 & Mar 1-2

Involved in examination of debris from burnpit

Present for discovery of bullet fragments, Mar 1&2

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Day 10 – 2007 Feb 23

Witnesses

Katie Halbach

Teresa's sister

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Cross-Examination [DS] [[46](#)]

Ronald L. Groffy

Forensic Imaging Specialist, Wisconsin State Crime Lab

Photographed and examined RAV 4, Nov 6

Direct Examination [NG] [[50](#)]

Cross-Examination [JB] [[61](#)]

Sherry Culhane

Forensic Scientist, DNA Unit, Wisconsin State Crime Lab

Responsible for DNA testing in the case

Direct Examination [NG] [[82](#)]

Day 11 – 2007 Feb 26

Witnesses

Sherry Culhane

Forensic Scientist, DNA Unit, Wisconsin State Crime Lab

Responsible for DNA testing in the case

Cross-Examination [JB] [[3](#)]

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Nick Stahlke

Forensic Scientist, Wisconsin State Crime Lab

Called as bloodstain expert

Direct Examination [NG] [[198](#)]

Day 12 – 2007 Feb 27

Witnesses

Nick Stahlke

Forensic Scientist, Wisconsin State Crime Lab
Called as bloodstain expert

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Blaine Dassey

Nephew of SA, lived in trailer next door
Son of Barb Janda, brother of Bobby and Brendan

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Cross-Examination [DS] [82]

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Robert Fabian

Friend of Earl Avery
Present at Avery Yard rabbit hunting Oct 31

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Scott Tadych

Friend of Barb Janda
Present at Avery Yard Oct 31

Direct Examination [KK] [122]

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Bobbie Dohrwardt

Team Leader, Technical Support Department, Cellcom
Gave testimony regarding cellphone records

Direct Examination [KK] [151]

Cross-Examination [JB] [158]

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Laura Schadrie

Cingular Wireless Store Manager

Gave testimony regarding cellphone records

Direct Examination [KK] [[180](#)]

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Bobbie Dohrwardt (re-called)

Team Leader, Technical Support Department, Cellcom

Gave testimony regarding cellphone records

Direct Examination [KK] [[215](#)]

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Day 13 – 2007 Feb 28

Witnesses

Special Agent Tom Sturdivant

Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation

Involved in searches of Avery Yard, Nov 8 & 10

Present when first bone discovered by Jason Jost, Manitowoc County Sheriff's Officer, Nov 8

Discovered bones in burnpit, Nov 8

Direct Examination [TF] [[7](#)]

Cross-Examination [DS] [[31](#)]

Dr. Donald Simley

Dentist, Madison, Wisconsin

Provided services as forensic dentist examining burnpit evidence, Nov 9

Matched tooth found to Teresa from x-rays

Direct Examination [TF] [[59](#)]

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Karen Halbach

Teresa's Mother

Direct Examination [KK] [[99](#)]

Dr. Leslie Eisenberg

Forensic Anthropologist

Examined bone fragments, Nov 10

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Day 14 – 2007 March 1

Witnesses

Dr. Leslie Eisenberg

Forensic Anthropologist

Examined bone fragments, Nov 10

Cross-Examination [DS] [4]

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Curtis Thomas

Electronics Engineer, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Testified regarding burnt camera & mobile phone

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William Newhouse

Firearm and Toolmark Examiner, Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory

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Day 15 – 2007 March 2

Witnesses

Kenneth Olson

Forensic Scientist, Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory

Involved in the analysis of items found in burn barrel and skull fragments

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Dr. Jeffrey Jentzen

Medical Examiner, Milwaukee County

Involved in the analysis of the bone fragments

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Day 16 – 2007 March 5

Witnesses

Dr. Marc Lebeau

Chief of the Chemistry Unit, FBI Laboratory

Tested blood in RAV4 for EDTA

Direct Examination [NG] [4]

Cross-Examination [JB] [51]

Day 17 – 2007 March 6

Witnesses

Lynn Zigmunt

Clerk of Court for Manitowoc County

Testified regarding SA files from previous conviction

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Dr. Marc Lebeau

Chief of the Chemistry Unit, FBI Laboratory

Tested blood in RAV4 for EDTA

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Arson Bureau, Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation

Examined burn pit, Nov 10

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Michael Riddle

Latent Fingerprint & Footwear Examiner, Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory

Examined RAV4 for fingerprints

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Anthony Joseph Zimmerman

Network Engineer, Cingular Wireless

Gave evidence regarding cell records and voicemail

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Michael Daniel Halbach

Teresa's Brother

Testimony regarding accessing Teresa's voicemail

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Investigator Mark Wiegert

Calumet County Sheriff's Department

Co-Lead Investigator in the murder of Teresa halbach

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Lisa Buchner

School Bus Driver

Dropped off Brendan & Blaine, 31 October

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John Leurquin

Propane Truck Driver

Present at Avery Road, 31 October

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Roland Johnson

Owner of SA trailer, owner of guns found at trailer

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Debra Kakatsch

Manitowoc County Coroner

Testified regarding not being involved in investigation

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Janine Arvizu

Laboratory Quality Auditor

Gave testimony regarding quality of Marc LeBeau's EDTA testing of blood

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Dr. Scott Fairgrieve

Chair of the Department of Forensic Science, Laurentian University, Ontario, Canada

Testimony regarding remains found in burn pit

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Investigator Mark Wiegert

Calumet County Sheriff's Department

Co-Lead Investigator in the murder of Teresa Halbach

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Abbreviations

Defendant

[SA] Steven Avery

Attorneys

[KK] Kenneth Kratz

[TF] Thomas Fallon

[NG] Norman Gahn

[DS] Dean Strang

[JB] Jerome Buting